

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Priority

The Examiner indicated that the application lacks the necessary reference to the prior application and required Applicants to add the reference. By the foregoing amendments, Applicants have added the reference.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to the numbering and format of certain claims. By the foregoing amendments, claims 1-28 have been canceled. Therefore, these objections are moot.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner required restriction to one of four (4) inventions listed in the Office Action. By the foregoing amendments, claims 1-28 have been canceled. Therefore, restriction is no longer required.

New Claims

During a telephone conference with the Examiner on January 26, 2005, Applicants suggested replacing the existing claims with new claims to eliminate the restriction requirement. The Examiner indicated that he would be willing to consider new claims. By the foregoing amendments, new claims 29-40 have been added. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's willingness to consider these new claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is earnestly requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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